Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Original) A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of Type II diabetes, which method comprises the administration, to a human or non-human mammal, of an effective non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable amount of an NO synthase inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, for the prophylactic treatment of Type II diabetes.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [or claim 2], for delaying or preventing the progression from hyperinsulinaemia to hyperglycaemia.

4. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein the NO synthase inhibitor is selected from aminoguanidine, n-monomethylargine, or other analogues of l-arginine.

5. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, wherein the NO synthase inhibitor is amonoguanidine.

6. (Original) An NO synthase inhibitor, or a pharmacuetically acceptable derivative thereof, for use in the treatment of an/or phophylaxis of Type II diabetes.

7. (Original) An NO synthase inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, for use in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of Type II diabetes.

8. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment and/or phophylaxis of Type II diabetes, which composition comprises an NO synthase inhibitor, or a pharmaceutically aceptable derivative thereof, and a pharmactutically acceptable carrier thereof.